

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS, 13th April, 1953

STATEMENT SHOWING MINIMUM NOMINAL WEEKLY RATES OF WAGE AND ORDINARY HOURS OF
LABOUR FOR WORKERS IN SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA AT

31ST DECEMBER, 1952

(Rates of Wage are quoted from the latest Award, Determination or Agreement operative
On 31st December, 1952)

ADULT MALES

Industry and Occupation	SYDNEY		MELBOURNE	
	Rates of Wage	Hours	Rates of Wage	Hours
<u>WOOD, FURNITURE, SAWMILLS, ETC.</u>				
	s. d.		s. d.	
<u>COOPERING -</u>				
Cooper	289/-	40	298/-	40
<u>FURNITURE -</u>				
Cabinet Maker	287/-	"	278/-	"
Chairmaker	287/-	"	278/-	"
French Polisher	287/-	"	278/-	"
Wood Carver	287/-	"	278/-	"
Wood Machinist	287/-	"	258/- to 278/-	"
<u>SAWMILLING & TIMBER YARDS -</u>				
Box and Case Maker	267/-	"	258/-	"
Labourer	251/-	"	242/-	"
Machinist -				
Boults Carver	283/6	"	274/6	"
Moulding	258/6 to 283/6	"	249/6 to 274/6	"
Planing	268/6 & 283/6	"	259/6 & 274/6	"
Shaping	283/6	"	274/6	"
Orderman	270/6	"	261/6	"
Sawyer -				
Band or Jig	268/- to 289/-	"	259/- to 280/-	"
Circular	269/- & 281/6	"	260/- & 272/6	"
Tallyman	268/6	"	259/6	"
<u>ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.</u>				
<u>WELDERMAKING -</u>				
Boilermaker	289/-	40	280/-	40
Helper	260/-	"	251/-	"
Labourer	260/-	"	251/-	"
<u>WASSWORKING -</u>				
Finisher	274/- & 289/-	"	265/- & 280/-	"
Moulder	265/- to 289/-	"	256/- to 280/-	"
<u>ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION -</u>				
Armature Winder	289/-	"	280/-	"
Fitter	289/-	"	280/-	"
Linesman	277/-	"	268/-	"
Mechanic	289/-	"	280/-	"
Wireman	277/-	"	268/-	"
<u>ELECTRICAL SUPPLY -</u>				
Armature Winder	301/-	"	280/-	"
Instrument Maker	304/6	"	295/6	"
Linesman	295/-	"	268/-	"
Shift Electrician	301/-	"	280/-	"
<u>ENGINEERING -</u>				
Blacksmith	290/6	"	281/6	"
Brassfinisher	274/- & 289/-	"	265/- & 280/-	"
Coppersmith	290/6	"	281/6	"
Fitter	289/-	"	280/-	"

WEEKLY WAGE RATES & HOURS, ADULT MALES 31ST DECEMBER, 1952 (Continued)

Industry and Occupation	SYDNEY		MELBOURNE	
	Rates of Wage	Hours	Rates of Wage	Hours
<u>ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS (Cont'd.)</u>				
	s. d.		s. d.	
<u>ENGINEERING - (Contd.)</u>				
Labourer	260/-	40	251/-	40
Patternmaker	302/-	"	293/-	"
Shaper	274/- & 289/-	"	265/- & 280/-	"
Striker	260/- & 262/-	"	251/- & 253/-	"
Turner	289/-	"	280/-	"
<u>MOULDING (IRON) -</u>				
Coremaker	265/- to 289/-	"	256/- to 280/-	"
Labourer	260/-	"	251/-	"
Moulder	265/- to 289/-	"	256/- to 280/-	"
<u>MOULDING (STEEL) -</u>				
Coremaker	289/-	"	280/-	"
Labourer	260/-	"	251/-	"
Moulder	289/-	"	280/-	"
<u>SHEET METAL WORKING -</u>				
Canister Maker	263/-	"	254/-	"
Machinist	259/-	"	250/-	"
Solderer	259/- & 263/-	"	250/- & 254/-	"
Tinsmith	274/- & 289/-	"	265/- & 280/-	"
<u>FOOD, DRINK, ETC.</u>				
<u>BAKING (BREAD) -</u>				
Board Hand	297/-	40	295/-	38
Bread Carter (1 horse)	277/-	"	270/-	42
Ovenman	305/6	"	295/-	38
Single Hand	302/-	"	305/10	38
<u>BAKING (BISCUITS AND CAKES) -</u>				
Baker	269/6	"	267/-	40
General Labourer	243/-	"	245/-	"
Mixer	258/- & 262/-	"	266/-	"
<u>BREWING -</u>				
Cellarman	271/- & 276/-	"	272/3	"
Driver (1 horse)	274/-	"	270/-	"
Labourer	271/-	"	264/-	"
Malt Hand	271/-	"	269/-	"
Towerman	276/-	"	273/-	"
<u>BUTCHERING (RETAIL) -</u>				
Carter (1 horse)	272/-	"	251/6	"
General Hand	292/-	"	283/-	"
Shopman	292/-	"	283/-	"
Smallgoodsman	297/-	"	288/-	"
<u>CONFECTIONERY -</u>				
Journeyman	279/-	"	258/- to 270/-	"
Labourer	255/-	"	246/-	"
Storeman	255/- & 279/-	"	258/- to 278/9	"
<u>ICE MAKING -</u>				
General Labourer	252/-	"	252/-	"
Solderer	261/-	"	261/-	"
<u>EAT PACKING -</u>				
Capper	289/6	"	296/-	"
Guillotine Hand	267/-	"	296/-	"
Jockeyman	277/-	"	296/-	"
Packer	267/-	"	296/-	"
Seamer	289/6	"	296/-	"
<u>MILLING (FLOUR) -</u>				
Miller (Shift)	289/- to 314/-	"	289/- to 314/-	"
Packerman	274/-	"	274/-	"
Purifierman	277/-	"	277/-	"
Smuttermen	277/-	"	277/-	"
Storeman (Head)	279/- & 284/-	"	279/- & 284/-	"
Topman	277/-	"	277/-	"
<u>PASTRYCOOKING -</u>				
Packer	262/6	"	242/-	"
Pastrycook	283/6	"	284/-	"

WEEKLY WAGE RATES & HOURS, ADULT MALES 31ST DECEMBER, 1952 (continued)

Industry and Occupation	SYDNEY		MELBOURNE	
	Rates of Wage	Hours	Rates of Wage	Hours
	<u>CLOTHING, HATS, BOOTS, ETC.</u>			
	s. d.		s. d.	
<u>BOOTMAKING -</u>				
Bootmaker	275/-	40	275/-	40
<u>TAILORING (ORDER) -</u>				
Cutter	362/-	"	314/-	"
Presser	278/-	"	278/-	"
Tailor	285/-	"	285/-	"
<u>TAILORING (READYMADE) -</u>				
Cutter	289/-	"	289/-	"
Presser	278/-	"	278/-	"
Tailor	285/-	"	285/-	"
Trimmer	278/-	"	278/-	"
<u>TEXTILE WORKING -</u>				
(Woollen Mills) -				
Carder	259/-	"	259/-	"
Dyehouseman	264/-	"	264/-	"
Labourer (General)	235/-	"	235/-	"
Scourer	264/- to 271/6	"	264/- to 271/6	"
Spinner	259/-	"	259/-	"
Tuner	252/- to 282/-	"	252/- to 282/-	"
Warper	261/-	"	261/-	"
	<u>BOOKS, PRINTING, BINDING, ETC.</u>			
<u>BOOKBINDING -</u>				
Finisher	295/-	40	286/-	40
Bookbinding (Journeyman)	295/-	"	286/-	"
Paper Ruler	295/-	"	286/-	"
<u>PRINTING (DAILY NEWSPAPER)</u>				
<u>Compositor -</u>				
Day Work	363/- to 370/6	"	339/-	38
Night Work	378/6 to 386/6	"	364/-	"
<u>Machinist -</u>				
Day Work	323/- to 335/6	"	343/6	40
Night Work	338/- to 351/6	"	368/6	38
<u>Publisher - (Day & Night)</u>	300/6 to 324/-	"	297/6 to 322/6	38 & 40
<u>Reader -</u>				
Day Work	330/6 to 338/6	"	339/-	40
Night Work	345/6 to 354/-	"	364/-	38
<u>Stereotyper -</u>				
Day Work	318/- to 330/6	"	339/-	39
Night Work	333/- to 346/6	"	364/-	38
<u>PRINTING (JOBGING OFFICES) -</u>				
Compositor	295/- to 305/6	"	286/- to 296/6	40
Linotype Operator	305/6	"	296/6	"
Machinist	295/-	"	286/-	"
Reader	298/6	"	289/6	"
Stereotyper	295/-	"	286/-	"
	<u>OTHER MANUFACTURING</u>			
<u>BRICKMAKING -</u>				
Burner	267/- & 273/-	40	269/-	40
Clayholeman	284/-	"	270/6	"
Drawer	289/6	"	268/6 & 271/-	"
Trucker	281/-	"	263/-	"
Setter	289/6	"	268/6 & 281/-	"
<u>COACHMAKING -</u>				
Bodymaker	289/-	"	280/-	"
Labourer	240/-	"	231/-	"
Painter	262/6 to 283/6	"	253/6 to 274/6	"
Springmaker	289/-	"	280/-	"
Trimmer	283/6	"	274/6	"
Wheelwright	283/6	"	274/6	"

WEEKLY WAGE RATES & HOURS, ADULT MALES 31ST DECEMBER, 1952 (continued)

Industry and Occupation	SYDNEY		MELBOURNE	
	Rates of Wage	Hours	Rates of Wage	Hours
<u>OTHER MANUFACTURING (Cont'd.)</u>				
	s. d.		s. d.	
<u>GLASS-MAKING AND SUPPLY -</u>				
Coke Trimmer	265/-	40	249/-	40
Gasfitter	303/-	"	285/6	"
Labourer	252/-	"	243/-	"
Meter Tester	266/- & 275/-	"	272/-	"
Service Layer	281/-	"	266/-	"
Service Layer's Labourer	262/-	"	249/-	"
Stoker	276/-	"	261/-	"
<u>LEATHER -</u>				
Chainmaker	287/-	"	280/-	"
Hounter	287/-	"	280/-	"
Setter	295/-	"	270/6	"
<u>SADDLERY AND HARNESS MAKING -</u>				
Collar Maker	277/-	"	268/-	"
Harness Maker	277/-	"	268/-	"
<u>MINING AND CURRYING -</u>				
Beamsman	284/6	"	275/6	"
Labourer	260/6	"	251/6	"
Limeman	277/6	"	268/6	"
<u>Machinist -</u>				
Shaving	285/6 to 291/6	"	276/6 to 282/6	"
Splitting	291/6 to 298/6	"	282/6 to 289/6	"
Unhairing	284/6	"	275/6	"
Tableman	279/6 to 285/6	"	270/6 to 276/6	"
<u>BUILDING</u>				
Bricklayer	326/8	40	313/4	40
Carpenter	331/8	"	290/6	"
Mason (Stone)	316/-	"	286/3	"
Painter	315/-	"	313/4	"
Paperhanger	315/-	"	313/4	"
Signwriter	327/6	"	313/4	"
Plasterer	323/9	"	313/4	"
Plumber	324/-	"	313/7	"
<u>Labourer - +</u>				
Bricklayer's	262/6	"	253/6	"
Carpenter's	262/6	"	253/6	"
Concrete Worker	262/6	"	253/6	"
Earth Excavator	262/6	"	253/6	"
Gear Worker	271/6	"	262/6	"
Scaffold Hand	271/6	"	262/6	"
<u>RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY SERVICES</u>				
<u>TRAMWAYS</u>				
<u>Engine Driver Loco -</u>				
1st Class	326/- & 329/-	φ	306/- to 321/-	φ
2nd Class	307/-	φ	303/-	φ
3rd Class	311/-	φ	294/-	φ
<u>Fireman -</u>				
1st Class	279/- & 282/-	φ	264/- to 271/-	φ
2nd Class	276/-	φ	258/-	φ
3rd Class	272/-	φ	252/-	φ
<u>Guard -</u>				
1st Class	296/-	φ	287/6	φ
2nd Class	287/- & 290/-	φ	270/- to 281/6	φ
3rd Class	282/- & 284/-	φ	270/- to 281/6	φ
<u>Porter -</u>	253/- to 284/-	φ	245/6 to 280/-	φ
<u>Shunter -</u>				
1st Class	295/- & 299/-	*	286/- & 289/-	*
2nd Class	284/6 & 287/6	*	278/6 & 281/6	*
3rd Class	265/- to 281/-	*	259/- & 268/6	*

+ Rates exclude allowances for statutory holidays, following the job, and sick pay.

WEEKLY WAGE RATES & HOURS, ADULT MALES 31st DECEMBER, 1952 (continued)

Industry and Occupation	SYDNEY		MELBOURNE	
	Rates of Wage	Hours	Rates of Wage	Hours
<u>RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY SERVICES (Cont'd.)</u>				
	s. d.		s. d.	
<u>RAILWAYS (Cont'd.)</u>				
Signalman -				
1st Class	311/-	*	292/6	*
2nd Class	303/-	ø	279/6	ø
3rd Class	295/-	ø	271/6	ø
<u>TRAMWAYS -</u>				
Conductor -				
1st Year	258/-	40	251/-	40
2nd Year	264/-	"	257/-	"
3rd Year	264/-	"	257/-	"
Labourer	252/6	"	245/-	"
Maintenance Man	260/- & 263/-	"	254/-	"
Motorman -				
1st Year	267/-	"	251/-	"
2nd Year	267/-	"	257/-	"
3rd Year	267/-	"	257/-	"
Pitman	277/-	"	265/-	"
* 76 hours per fortnight.		ø 80 hours per fortnight.		
<u>TRANSPORT (OTHER)</u>				
<u>CARRYING MERCHANDISE -</u>				
Carter -				
1 Horse	268/-	40	251/6	40
2 Horses	273/-	"	259/6	"
Stable Hand	267/6 to 272/6	"	246/-	"
Motor Lorries & Waggon -				
Under 3 tons	270/- to 280/-	"	259/6 & 265/6	"
3 tons and over	284/- to 288/-	"	270/-	"
<u>HAIR LABOUR -</u>				
Wharf Labourer(per hour)	8/2		8/2	
<u>HOTELS, ETC.</u>				
<u>OTELS -</u>				
Barman	267/-	40	258/-	40
Billiard Marker	257/-	"	248/-	"
Cook	267/- to 307/-	"	258/- to 298/-	"
Handyman	257/-	"	248/-	"
Kitchenman	257/-	"	248/-	"
Porter	257/-	"	248/-	"
Waiter	257/- & 267/-	"	248/- & 258/-	"
<u>HAIRDRESSING -</u>				
Full Hand	287/-	"	286/6	"
Hairdresser	277/-	"	267/-	"
<u>GENERAL LABOUR</u>				
<u>FACTORY ENGINE DRIVING -</u>				
Engine Driver -				
1st Class	274/- & 280/6	40	265/- & 271/6	40
2nd Class	269/- & 274/-	"	260/- & 265/-	"
Fireman -				
1st Class	269/-	"	260/-	"
2nd Class	264/-	"	255/-	"
<u>MUNICIPAL -</u>				
Labourer	260/-	"	247/-	"
Street Sweeper	260/-	"	253/-	"
<u>SHOP ASSISTANTS -</u>				
Boot Salesman	279/-	"	265/-	"
Drapery Salesman	279/-	"	265/-	"
Furniture Salesman	279/-	"	268/-	"
Grocery Salesman	279/-	"	261/-	"
Hardware Salesman	279/-	"	265/-	"
Men's Clothing Salesman	279/-	"	265/-	"
<u>STOREMAN AND PACKERS -</u>				
Packer (General)	269/6 & 272/6	"	269/-	"
Storeman (General)	268/- & 270/6	"	269/-	"

WEEKLY WAGE RATES & HOURS, ADULT FEMALES, 31ST DECEMBER, 1952.

Industry and Occupation	SYDNEY		MELBOURNE	
	Rates of Wage	Hours	Rates of Wage	Hours
<u>FOOD</u>				
	s. d.		s. d.	
Biscuit Making	179/6	40	190/9	40
Confectionery	190/6	"	184/6	"
<u>CLOTHING & TEXTILES</u>				
Bootmaking	191/-	40	191/-	40
Dressmaking	179/- to 209/-	"	179/- to 209/-	"
Hillinery	179/-	"	179/-	"
Shirt Making	179/-	"	179/-	"
Underclothing	179/- to 209/-	"	179/- to 209/-	"
<u>TAILORING - ORDER -</u>				
Machinist (Coat)	209/-	"	209/-	"
" (Trousers & Vest)	196/6	"	196/6	"
Tailoress (Coat)	225/-	"	225/-	"
" (Trousers & Vest)	196/6	"	196/6	"
<u>TAILORING - READYMADE -</u>				
Machinist (Coat)	199/-	"	199/-	"
" (Trousers & Vest)	194/-	"	194/-	"
Tailoress (Coat)	199/-	"	199/-	"
" (Trousers & Vest)	194/-	"	194/-	"
<u>TEXTILE WORKING WOOLLEN MILLS -</u>				
Comb Minder	189/6	"	189/6	"
Drawer & Mender	188/6 & 191/6	"	188/6 & 191/6	"
Warper	191/6	"	191/6	"
Weaver (Loom)	194/6	"	194/6	"
Gillbox Minder	188/6	"	188/6	"
Other Adult	176/6	"	176/6	"
<u>BOOKS, PRINTING, ETC.</u>				
<u>BOOKBINDING -</u>				
Folder	201/6	40	195/-	40
Sewer	201/6	"	195/-	"
<u>WANDBOARD BOX -</u>				
Boxmaker	199/6 & 206/-	"	193/- & 199/6	"
Other	190/- to 202/-	"	183/6 to 195/6	"
<u>PRINTING -</u>				
Jobbing Office Assistant	201/6	"	195/-	"
<u>HOTELS AND SHOPS</u>				
<u>HOTELS -</u>				
Barmaid	207/6	40	258/-	40
Housemaid	191/6	"	185/-	"
Laundress	195/6	"	189/-	"
Waitress	191/6 & 197/6	"	185/- & 191/-	"
<u>SHOPS -</u>				
Boot Saleswoman	199/6 & 279/-	"	186/6	"
Drapery Saleswoman	199/6 & 279/-	"	186/6 & 265/-	"